

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 CU-02 SCCT-01 OPR-02 SY-05 PC-01 SIL-01 LAB-04

/078 W

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R 171033Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0389

INFO COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 6157

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, TH

SUBJ: CONTINUING ACTIVITIES CONCERNING MARCH 20

REF: A) BANGKOK 6020, B) BANGKOK 6016

SUMMARY. ACTIVITY FOR AND AGAINST CONTINUED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE CONTINUES, WITH RALLIES SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON OF MARCH 17. NAWAPHON DELIVERS FLOWERS TO U.S. EMBASSY. STUDENTS ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT CALLING FOR COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES BY MARCH 20. LABOR CALLS FOR TOTAL WITHDRAWAL, BUT DECLINES TO PARTICIPATE IN NSCT CAMPAIGN. DR. PUAI AGAIN TURNS DOWN NSCT REQUEST TO USE THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY TO STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. ACTIVITY FOR AND AGAINST A CONTINUED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN THAILAND (REFTELS) HAS CONTINUED MARCH 17. BANGKOK REMAINS GENERALLY QUIET, AND COLORFUL, ANTI-US POSTERS ERECTED MARCH 15 AND TAKEN DOWN OR DEFACED MARCH 16 ARE STILL DOWN. HOWEVER, THE NATIONAL STUDENTS CENTER OF  
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THAILAND (NSCT) WILL HOLD ON THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 17 AT THE SANAM LUANG, AT WHICH THE SIGNS AND ACCOMPANYING LEFTIST

RHETORIC ARE LIKELY TO REAPPEAR. VERY CRITICAL AND EVEN SLANDEROUS ANTI-US CARTOONS CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN LEFTIST NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS, ALL OF THEM PRESSING FOR A TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF US FORCES. A NEW FORCE PARTY RALLY IS ALSO SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 17, NEAR THE SITE OF THE NSCT RALLY. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER ON THIS RALLY.

2. IN A CLEAR COUNTER-ACTION TO DEMONSTRATIONS AND SIGN PAINTING BY STUDENTS, THE RIGHT WING ORGNIZATION, NAWAPHON, SENT A DELEGATION OF ABOUT 100, HEADED BY LEADER WATTHANA KIEOWIMON (BGN SPELLING) TO THE EMBASSY ON MARCH 17 TO PRESENT A BOUQUET OF ORCHIDS TO THE AMBASSADOR WITH A CARD BEARING THE NAWAPHON EMBLEM AND SIGNED "THAI PEOPLE ARE YOUR FRIEND (SIC) FOREVER, WATANA KEOVIMOL". THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR RECEIVED THE GROUP AT THE EMBASSY GATES. WATTHANA TOLD HIM THAT, "WE WOULD LIKE TO LET YOU AND ALL MAERICAN PEOPLE KNOW THAT ALL THAI PEOPLE ARE STILL YOUR GOOD FRIEND DESPITE OF A CERTAIN GROUP (SIC) WHO TRIED TO BREAK UP OUR GOOD RELATIONS." WE UNDERSTAND THAT NAWAPHON MAY PRESENT FLOWERS TO SOME OF OUR CONSULATES AS WELL.

3. ACCORDING TO BANGKOK NEWSPAPERS OF MARCH 17, PRESIDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT UNIONS OF CHULALONGKON, THAMMASAT, MAHIDON, KASETSAT, SINLAPAKON, RAMKHAMHAENG, SRINAKKHARINWIROT, AND PHRA CHOMKLAO UNIVERSITIES (ALL HAVE LEFTIST STUDENT GOVERNMENTS) ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT ON MARCH 16 CALLING ON THE RTG TO RESPECT THE MARCH 20 DEADLINE FOR THE PULLOUT OF U.S. FORCES. THEY SAID THEY WOULD CONTINUE THE PROTEST CAMPAIGN UNTIL ALL U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL HAVE LEFT THAILAND.

4. THE CONFEDERATION OF LABOR UNIONS OF THAILAND (CLUT) ISSUED A STATEMENT ON MARCH 16 CALLING FOR THE TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES, BUT CLUT ALSO DECLINED TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE NSCT CAMPAIGN, SAYING IT MIGHT CONSIDER HAVING DEMONSTRATIONS AFTER THE ELECTIONS (APRIL 4) IF U.S. TROOPS HAVE NOT YET WITHDRAWN.

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5. THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY RECTOR DR. PUAU UNGPHAKON HAS AGAIN TURNED DOWN AN NSCT REQUEST TO USE THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY FOR ANTI-US RALLIES. ON MARCH 15, PUAU HAD TOLD NSCT LEADERS THAT THEY COULD NOT USE THE FACILITIES UNLESS THEY COULD GET A GUARANTEE OF SAFETY FROM POLICE. HOWEVER, WHEN NSCT LEADERS SHOWED UP ON MARCH 16 WITH A LETTER FROM BANGKOK POLICE COMMISSIONER LT. GEN. NARONG MAHANON, PROMISING POLICE PORTECTION, DR. PUAU AGAIN TURNED DOWN THE STUDENTS. HE SAID THAT IN AUGUST, 1975, POLICE HAD BEEN UNABLE TO PREVENT VOCATIONAL STUDENTS FROM DAMAGING

THAMMASAT IN ATTACKS AGAINST THE NSCT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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